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5/4/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Juan Carlos Parodi  
Serial No. : To Be Assigned  
Filed : Herewith  
For: : APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR REDUCING  
EMBOLIZATION DURING TREATMENT OF  
CAROTID ARTERY DISEASE  
Examiner : To Be Assigned  
Group Art Unit : 3763

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments:

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 4, 7, 16, and 17.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, and 19 as follows:

1. (Amended) Apparatus for removing emboli from the cerebral vasculature, the apparatus comprising:

a catheter having proximal and distal ends, a lumen extending therethrough, and a blood outlet port in communication with the lumen, the catheter having an outer

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